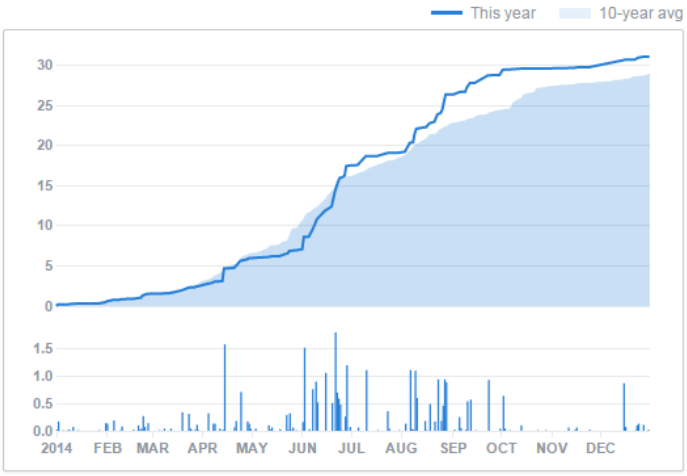
Nebraska On-Farm Research Network

Wheat Planted Into Soil Builder Cover Crop

Study ID: 023137201401
County: Phelps
Soil Type: Holdrege silt loam
Planting Date: 10/4/2013
Harvest Date: unknown
Population: 987,780
Row Spacing: 7.5”
Hybrid: Settler
Reps: 4
Previous Crop: Corn
Tillage: No-till
Herbicides: Unknown
Insecticides/Fungicides: Unknown
Fertilizer: UAN 32% 60lbs – November 2013, UAN 32% 20lbs March 2014

Irrigation: Not irrigated
Rainfall:



Introduction: This study is looking at the effects of a cover crop on the subsequent cash crop. The cover crop used in this study was “Soil Builder Cover Crop Mix”. This mix consisted of reeves oats (52%), spring triticale (21%), common vetch (13%), ed annual ryegrass (6%) flax (6%) and de rapeseed (2%). It was seeded at 25 lbs/ac into corn stubble in the spring of 2013. The cover crop was terminated August 2013 using 80 oz/ac Glystar Plus and 8.25 oz/ac Clarifier. Wheat was planted into the residue in September 2013. The cover crop treatment is compared to planting into corn stubble with no cover crop.

Results:

	Yield† (bu/acre)	Moisture (%)	Net Return ‡
Check	68 A*	12.6 B	$406.11
Cover Crop	48 B	13.3 A	$232.52
P-Value	*<0.0001*	*0.0922*	--

†Bushels per acre corrected to 14% moisture.

*Values with the same letter are not significantly different at a 90% confidence level.

‡ Net return based on $6.00/bu wheat, $25/acre cover crop, $13.37/acre drill application cost, and approximately $19.51 for cover crop termination (herbicide and spray application).

Summary: The wheat planted into cover crop treatment resulted in yields that were 20 bu/acre less than check yields and were higher in moisture. Overall, the cover crop treatment resulted in a loss of $173.59/ac.

Sponsored by: University of Nebraska Lincoln

In partnership with: Soybeans Nebraska Soybean Board; Nebraska Corn Board; Nebraska Corn Growers Association